The Company’s history dates back to 1884, when we entered the shipbuilding business by taking a lease on the government-owned Nagasaki Shipyard. We built up a track record in shipbuilding, constructing Japan’s first steel ship and large cruise ship.

At the Kobe Shipyard & Machinery Works, we built the Mitsubishi Model A-1, Japan’s first mass-produced passenger car. We embarked on the development of transportation equipment, such as steam locomotives and aircraft, as well as internal combustion engines.

As Japan entered World War II, our leading-edge technologies were applied toward the production of military equipment, starting the world with the Zero Carrier Fighter aircraft and the Musashi battleship.
We recombined after reintegration of the three companies in 1964. We developed power plants, monorails, oil-drilling rigs, and other large-scale infrastructure products, supporting Japan’s rapid economic growth.

After the war, in 1950 the General Headquarters of the Allied Powers broke up MHI into three entities in line with its policy of dissolving the zaibatsu. We turned our energies to competing in the development of diverse products, including tankers, scooters, tractors, and air conditioners, thereby contributing to Japan’s reconstruction.

As Japan’s period of rapid economic growth came to an end, our own growth stagnated for approximately 30 years. During that time, however, we build the world’s first large-scale ultra-energy saving ships and the world’s largest combined-cycle power plant, honing the leading-edge technologies that we retain to this day.

In 1999, we delivered a CO2-recovery plant to Malaysia, channeling our technological capabilities toward the resolution of environmental issues, and we began to proactively roll out our products overseas.

In 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, and 2010s, leveraging our integrated capabilities, we pushed our businesses toward addressing global-scale issues such as infrastructure development and environmental preservation, including the Taiwan High-Speed Rail, the Dubai Metro, and other transportation systems.

Through its broad-based involvement in fields spanning land, sea, air, and space, the MHI Group has the strength to fully understand customer needs, local communities, and environmental conditions, and then to formulate and integrate solutions. By leveraging these integration capabilities, we will strive and pursue innovation to remain an organization considered necessary by stakeholders around the world.

More than 130 years have passed since the MHI Group’s founding in 1884. In accordance with Sankoryo, a set of three principles that define the spirit of the Mitsubishi Group, we have always pursued leading-edge technologies. Through manufacturing that applies these technologies, we have built the foundations of society and industry in every era and supported the modernization of Japan. Now active in fields that span the globe, we are striving to contribute to progress of a more broad-based society, lending the strengths of the MHI Group to resolve complex, global scale issues such as rapid urbanization in emerging countries, infrastructure upgrades in advanced countries, and climate change and other environmental problems.

Hideaki Omiya
Chairman of the Board